

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) An optical functional element comprising:  
a magneto-optic functional element;

first birefringent plates formed on one side of a surface of the magneto-optic functional element intersecting a light path for passing the light at predetermined intervals;  
and

second birefringent plates formed on the other side of the surface of the magneto-optic functional element at predetermined intervals.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) An optical functional element inserted into a groove of an arrayed waveguide-embedded optical circuit which comprises a waveguide, a groove formed across the waveguide and two or more embedded optical waveguide pairs whose members face each other across the groove, wherein the optical functional element comprises:

a magneto-optic functional element;

first and second birefringent plates being arranged on one surface of the magneto-optic functional element in a checker pattern;

third and fourth birefringent plates being arranged on the other surface of the magneto-optic functional element in a checker pattern; and

regions for passing the light propagating through the two or more pairs of the embedded optical waveguides.

24. (Previously Presented) An optical functional element inserted into a groove of an arrayed waveguide-embedded optical circuit which comprises a waveguide, a groove formed across the waveguide and two or more embedded optical waveguide pairs whose members face each other across the groove, wherein the optical functional element comprises:

a magneto-optic functional element;

first birefringent plates formed on one side of a surface of the magneto-optic functional element intersecting a light path for passing the light at predetermined intervals; and

second birefringent plates formed on the other side of the surface of the magneto-optic functional element at predetermined intervals.

25. (Previously Presented) The optical functional element in accordance with claim 24 wherein the first and second birefringent plates are located at positions where they do not substantially face each other across the magneto-optic functional element.

26-27. (Canceled)